

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

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For Immediate Release:

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**EVENT: Indictment** 

**DEFENDANTS: 10 individuals from the Detroit area** 

## 10 DETROIT AREA RESIDENTS INDICTED IN MILLION DOLLAR BANK FRAUD CASE

10 Detroit area residents have been named in an indictment charging them with bank fraud and conspiracy to commit bank fraud, announced U.S. Attorney Craig S. Morford.

Named in the indictment, which was returned yesterday and unsealed today, are:

Defendant	Age	Residence
Lester Ollison	26	Detroit, Michigan
Jameel Murphy	23	Detroit, Michigan
Ayana Ross	26	Detroit, Michigan
Kakela Baker	22	Detroit, Michigan
Janean Collins	50	Detroit, Michigan
Frances Robinson	25	Detroit, Michigan
Terryl Taylor	53	Detroit, Michigan
Lynn Drake	45	Detroit, Michigan
Donna Hickey	43	Detroit, Michigan
Cheryl Drummy	?	Detroit, Michigan

The indictment alleges that beginning in September 2003 and continuing through June 2004, the defendants executed a scheme to obtain money from the bank accounts of various individuals, held at several institutions, including Charter One Bank, Citizens Bank and Huntington National Bank. The defendants would obtain customer account information without authorization then have fraudulent identification documents such as Michigan Driver Licenses and/or Identification cards made in the customer's name. The defendants would then present such fraudulent identification documents and valid account information at the various financial institutions and withdraw funds from said accounts thereby causing an aggregate loss in the amount of over \$900,000 to the banks.

The indictment further alleges that defendants OLLISON and MURPHY recruited bank tellers to provide them with customer account information. OLLISON and MURPHY would approach tellers and ask them to provide the customer account information for accounts that had significant available balances, so that they could make fraudulent identification and make unauthorized withdrawals from those accounts. MURPHY would obtain fake identification in the customers' names that would contain the photographs of individuals (or "runners") who were directed by OLLISON and MURPHY to make withdrawals. OLLISON and MURPHY, together or separately, would transport runners posing as bank customers to the bank branch locations in order to execute the transactions. OLLISON and MURPHY would then receive proceeds of the fraudulent transactions and would pay the runners a share of the proceeds. Sometimes, OLLISON also paid the bank tellers for providing the customer account information. Defendants ROSS, BAKER, COLLINS, and ROBINSON were all employed as

bank tellers at the various financial institutions and are alleged to have provided OLLISON with customer information. Defendants TAYLOR, DRAKE, HICKEY and DRUMMY are the alleged "runners" who made unauthorized cash withdrawals at the various banks.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Troy Police Department working in the Detroit Metro Identity Fraud Task Force, which is a federal, state, and local investigative task force dedicated to fighting identity fraud in southeastern Michigan. The Task Force includes agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, Michigan State Police, the Troy Police Department, the Auburn Hills Police Department, and fraud investigators from the Target Corporation. Mr. Morford thanked the FBI, the Troy Police Department, and all of the members of the Detroit Metro Identity Fraud Task Force for their efforts in investigating this case.